

**From:** Joe 'Zonker' Brockmeier  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/7/01 6:34pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to express my dismay at the weak and ineffectual set of proposed remedies that the DOJ and Microsoft have agreed to.

Microsoft has been found guilty of abusing its position as a monopoly in the software industry, and the proposed remedies do little to actually punish Microsoft for this behavior. In fact, by abiding by this agreement, Microsoft is given free reign to act punatively towards Free and Open Source software projects that compete with Microsoft's own offerings.

I would ask the Department of Justice to reconsider this set of stipulations, and include provisions that will:

1. Protect Free and Open Source software projects by requiring that Microsoft provide complete, timely and accurate documentation of its APIs and file formats to any interested party.
2. Require Microsoft to cease anti-competitive bundling practices with its media player, MSN software and MSN Messenger.
3. Require Microsoft to produce a version of Office for Linux and other UNIX systems.
4. Force Microsoft to divest MSN. It's not in the best interest of the public to allow Microsoft to build MSN by shoving it down the customer's throat. Each new version of Windows locks customers into Microsoft's MSN and Passport system.
5. Force Microsoft to give open access to APIs for its .Net initiative.

The proposed stipulations contain too many loopholes. While breaking the company up into several companies was not a suitable solution, neither is letting the company off with a light slap on the wrist.

Microsoft is getting off entirely too lightly for the damage that they've done and continue to do to the software industry. Allowing Microsoft to continue its business practices and a monopolistic position in the market is doing great damage to the consumer and other businesses in the computing industry.

Sincerely,

Joe Brockmeier

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"Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around  
once in awhile, you could miss it." -- Ferris Bueller